



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

often told that the Chinese mind is sealed to us that it is refreshing to find a most modern and highly trained American without any inkling of their language or civilization at once at home among them on his own ground.

MARK JEFFERSON.

GEOGRAPHICAL RECORD

AMERICAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

A regular meeting of the Society was held on April 23, 1912, at 8.30 P. M., at the Engineering Societies' Building, No. 29 West 39th Street. Councillor Levi Holbrook in the Chair. The following persons recommended by the Council were elected to Fellowship:

George A. Armour,	Frank R. Cordley,
C. G. Seymour Bagot,	Ralph Adams Cram,
Thomas H. Barber,	Henry Edward Crampton,
Joshua William Beede,	Thomas DeWitt Cuyler,
Ernest C. Bliss,	H. Stuart Hotchkiss,
Charles Wilson Brown,	Marion Eppley,
Rudolph E. Brünnow,	Mrs. E. L. Reaney,
George Bryce,	Mrs. Edwards Spencer,
C. L. Carpenter,	Otto M. Eidlitz,
Thomas H. Chamberlin,	Hans A. Frasch,
Frederick G. Clapp,	Jacob Hasslacher,
Jane Perry Cook,	W. Thorn Kissel.

The Chairman then introduced Mr. W. S. C. Russell of Springfield, Mass., who addressed the Society on "Iceland." Lantern views were shown.

THE SOCIETY'S HOUSE TO BE CLOSED IN JULY. The Council decided, at its meeting on April 18, to close the Society's building during the month of July. The house will be reopened on Aug. 1.

AMUNDSEN TO RECEIVE THE DALY MEDAL. The Council on April 18 awarded the Charles P. Daly Medal to Captain Roald Amundsen. The medal bears the following inscription:

"Awarded to Roald Amundsen in recognition of the value of his magnetic observations in the American Arctic, achievement of the Northwest Passage, explorations in the Antarctic, and attainment of the South Pole."

The medal will be presented to the explorer at one of the meetings of the Society during his coming visit to this country.

NORTH AMERICA

FAILED TO SCALE MT. MCKINLEY. The expedition to Mt. McKinley which left Fairbanks, Alaska, on Feb. 5, fitted out by a newspaper of that town to make the ascent of Mt. McKinley, returned unsuccessful on April 10. The party says that it attained an elevation of 10,000 feet on the north side of the mountain east of Peter Glacier. Precipitous ice cliffs prevented further progress. These are apparently the same ice cliffs which defeated F. A. Cook's

attempt to ascend the mountain on that side. The party did not have sufficient supplies to attempt the ascent by another route.

NEW MAP OF ROCHESTER. In 1911, the area included in the U. S. Topographic sheet embracing Rochester, N. Y., was resurveyed and the new sheet has just been issued. The resurvey consisted in revising the culture—railroads, wagon roads, houses, etc. Rochester has made growth since the original survey in 1893 and the new sheet shows that the surrounding country is much more thickly settled.

QUARTERNARY DEPOSITS IN COLORADO. The glacial and river deposits in the Breckinridge district near the Continental Divide in Summit County, Colorado, are estimated to have yielded approximately \$10,000,000 in placer gold since first operated in 1860. F. L. Ransome has recently described these Quarternary deposits ("Geology and Ore Deposits of the Breckinridge District, Colorado," *Prof. Paper, U. S. Geol. Surv.*, No. 75, 1911, pp. 72-80, 175-181, 183). The glacial deposits are terminal moraines, valley train outwash, lake deposits, hillside wash, and terrace gravels; and there are strips of modern stream alluvium, residual soils, and talus accumulations. Ransome concludes that the terrace gravels and older hillside wash represent an earlier cycle of glaciation which was followed by retreat and by readvance in a later glacial cycle, whose deposits are the moraines and low-level gravels or outwash. There is no morainic material of the first advance, which is thought to have taken place because some of the moraines and valley train gravels occupy valleys cut in the terrace gravels and because the terrace gravels themselves are considerably weathered.

L. M.

GLACIERS EAST OF MT. WRANGELL, ALASKA. In connection with the study of the mineral resources of Alaska it is often possible to gather important data on glaciers and glaciation. Many publications of this sort are issued under the direction of A. H. Brooks, and the matter is illustrated once more by a recent U. S. Geological Survey publication, containing a discussion by Moffit and Capps and an excellent map by Witherspoon (*Geology and Mineral Resources of the Nizina District, Alaska, Bull. 448, U. S. Geol. Survey, 1911, pp. 43-52*).

The former extent of glaciation is presented in some detail and shown upon the geological map. An interesting feature is the importation of foreign rocks and pebbles of native copper into valleys containing none of these rocks in place, at the stage when the ice rose 3,000 or 3,500 feet higher than now and overrode high cols. The intensity of glacial erosion at the maximum is shown by steepened valley walls, truncation of spurs, hanging valleys, etc., well described in the text and shown upon the topographic map. The great thickness of outwash gravels, 500-700 feet in places, bears an interesting relationship to glacial stream alluviation and apparently to the barring of mouths of deglaciated tributary valleys by the trunk glaciers. These and many other specific points in connection with the present glaciers and the former glaciation mark the report as one which should be of great use to glacial geologists.

It seems gratuitous to criticise, in a case where the geologist in charge of a division of mineral resources encourages, and the authors undertake so much work outside their special field,—the stratigraphy and the copper and gold deposits. Nevertheless, one cannot help regretting the rigidity of a system of map legends which makes it necessary to map the glacial outwash as "alluvium (gravels, sand, and silts of floodplains)," sharply differentiating it from the outwash in the bench gravels, which is included in "moraines and associa-

ted gravels (glacial till and glacio-fluvial bench gravels, sands, and silts).” The geological map, and the cross sections upon it, are open to criticism in this respect, for they set up an artificial, arbitrary boundary, suggesting a sharp change in conditions of deposition, where there has doubtless been a continuous process. Indeed, the map gives no hint that the “alluvium” is of glacial origin, though the text makes the relation of these deposits to the existing glaciers perfectly clear. A minor error is the mapping of the present terminal moraine of Kennicott Glacier, which is made up largely of till, and rises sharply above the glacial floodplain as “alluvium.” The suggestion of interglacial epochs, though accompanied by a frank statement that there is no evidence of them, seems unnecessary.

It is to be hoped that future work on economic geology in regions of existing glaciers may result in other reports on glacial geology as praiseworthy as this one. In addition to the report itself, an especially good feature is D. C. Wither-
spoon’s topographic map on the scale of an inch to the mile and with 50-foot contours, including the innovation, at least in United States Geological Survey maps, of blue contours upon the glacier surface. These afford important data upon the slopes of the ice margin and its surface. The contours would be of great value, for example, in the case of Kennicott Glacier, if an advance should break up the slow-moving southern portion, now covered deeply with ablation moraine, for they would enable the accurate measurement of the thickening of the glacier with advance. Or if advance were postponed many years, a resurvey would make it possible to determine accurately the rate of thinning of a moraine-veneered glacier by ablation. It is to be hoped that the contouring of Alaskan glaciers may be continued where possible, and that geologists like Moffit and Capps may be encouraged to continue the observation and publication of glacial data, as in this excellent report. LAWRENCE MARTIN.

THE TANCÍTARO PEAK. Ezequiel Ordoñez, former Assistant Director of the Geological Institute of Mexico, visited, in January, 1910, the Tancítaro Peak, one of the highest mountains in the southwestern part of the Mexican Central Plateau. He published a paper on the mountain in *Memorias y Revista de la Sociedad Científica “Antonio Alzate”* (Sept.-Oct., 1910), from which the following facts are condensed.

The Tancítaro Peak is one of the highest (12,660 feet) in the western part of the Mexican Central Plateau. It lies in the southwestern portion of the district of Uruapan, in the state of Michoacán in 19° 5' N. Lat., 2° 59' 57" W. of Mexico City, according to Lejarza.

The mountain can be distinguished from afar owing to its isolation. It rises above the gentle southern slope of the Mesa Central, and is topographically connected with the outlying volcanic ranges by a line of vents of no small importance. The peak is a highly eroded ancient volcano, at the foot of which a malpais region extends in all directions. The district immediately surrounding its base has been overrun by successive lava flows emitted by near-by volcanoes. The crest of the mountain has a general N-S trend. Its southern extremity is visible at a distance owing to its height, the peak rising to 3,860 meters above sea level according to hypsometric calculations. Its northern extremity, slightly less than a kilometer in length, is subdivided into two main branches which, together, assume the form of a horseshoe. It is here that the Vibora cañon originates to end subsequently in the tierra caliente west of Apatzingán. The westernmost of these two branches is the more important

and is known to the natives of the district by the names of Piedra del Horno, Piedras Paradas, etc. In the same way other spurs radiate outward from the peak towards the south and, to a lesser degree, to the east and the west. They thus present the appearance of the spokes of a huge wheel.

The most abrupt slopes of the Tancitaro face the south and west, where the mountain rises precipitously to a height of 1,800 meters. The geologist says that he was struck with the fact that, in Michiocán, the Sierra Madre del Sur appears to be independent of the northern orographic system that characterizes Mexico.

SOUTH AMERICA

SHEEP IN PATAGONIA. In recent years sheep growing in Patagonia has become so important that the wool of this region is already beginning to have an influence on prices in the world market. During the last third of the 19th century sheep were introduced into Patagonia from the Falkland Islands and wool raising was undertaken in Tierra del Fuego and other regions near the Strait of Magellan and also at various places on the east coast. The industry spread to the north and flourished best on the dryer plains of the Patagonian steppes. In 1910, 11,251,346 sheep were grazing in the large territories of Neuquen, Río Negro, Chubut, Santa Cruz, and Tierra del Fuego. It is expected that the number of sheep will surpass 12,000,000 during the present year. As agriculture becomes more intense in Argentina and is extending into the sheep grazing lands, the industry is pushing southward into Patagonia.

A SOCIETY TO STUDY THE FOLK LORE OF CHILE. At a meeting of the Sociedad Científica "Antonio Alzate" held on July 4, 1910, City of Mexico, Professor Engerrand gave an account of the formation of a Chilean Society for the study of the country's folklore. The society was organized at the suggestion of Sr. Rodolfo Lenz, a German-Chilean and author of several works on the Chilean Indians and their languages. He has advised that the researches should be subdivided under the following headings:

I. Literature: (a) Poetry; (b) Prose.

II. Music, Dancing, Sculpture and Ornamental Arts.

III. Customs and Beliefs: (a) Holidays and Amusements; (b) Customs and Beliefs having reference to human life; (c) The material side of human life in general; (d) Social occupations and workers.

IV. Ordinary Language: (a) Theory of language; (b) The components of language.

Sr. Lenz calls attention to the importance of the study of the gradual alterations of words as a key to the history of civilization. He shows how Chilean words are in process of alteration at the present time and cites such examples as: *ruvulucion*, *turrumoto*, etc., which are used instead of *revolucion*, *terremoto*, etc. (*Mem. y Rev. Soc. Cient. A.A.* Vol. 29, Nos 7-12. Jan. to June, 1910, City of Mexico.)

RUBBER ALONG THE UPPER ORINOCO. The rubber industry of southern Venezuela is pretty closely confined to the immediate flood plains of the tributaries, and the chief rubber producing section is along the Casiquiare. From the mouth of the Casiquiare to the Río Negro, rubber trees are more plentiful than elsewhere in the Orinoco basin, and the population is larger than on many of the tributaries. The production in a single year on the Casiquiare and its tributary the Siapa amounts to 300,000 pounds. One of the principal towns

in the rubber country is Fernandez de Atabopo at the junction of the Atabopo and Orinoco rivers. It is here that the rubber pickers collect at the end of the season to ship their product to Ciudad Bolivar. In the last few years the rubber crop of this district has reached as high as 400,000 pounds. (*Daily Consular and Trade Reports*, April 5, 1912, No. 81, p. 70.) The extraction of rubber generally starts in September and lasts until March or April, each Indian workman having 300 or 400 trees to tap. Since steamboat navigation on the Orinoco stops at the rapids of Atmes, the principal part of the product must be transported down the river by canoes to a few trading centers.

I. B.

EFFECTS OF DIMINISHED RAINFALL IN VENEZUELA. In spite of its periodically heavy rains and widely inundated flood plains, central Venezuela now and then has an unusually dry season. The winter rains of the past season have been light, and, as a consequence, forage on the llanos has been scant, the vegetable crop has diminished, the crop of cacao was seriously damaged, and the Orinoco was so low as to interrupt regular navigation. One steamer was damaged by running aground; others now end their voyage at Caño Colorado near the mouth of the northern distributary of the Orinoco. From this point the cargo is transhipped to light-draft river boats which take it to Ciudad Bolivar, the regular terminal port of the larger steamers under normal conditions. (*C. and T. Rep't.*, No. 99, April 26, 1912.)

I. B.

AFRICA

THE SURVEY OF EGYPT. Captain Henry G. Lyons, late Director of the Survey Department of Egypt, prepared a summary for *Nature* (Vol. 89, 1912, No. 2214, p. 126) of the Report of the Survey Department, which has recently appeared, on the work done in 1910. The geodetic triangulation was carried southward, reconnaissance having reached Tema, about 450 kilometers south of Cairo, while angular measurements and latitude observations were completed as far as Etsa, about half way. Precise leveling in the delta is nearly complete, and is being pushed on towards Assuan up the Nile Valley, Assiut having been reached, and a branch line carried into the Fayum. The gravity survey of the Nile Valley was begun, and observations were being made at a series of stations between Cairo and Khartum. The magnetic survey of the Nile Valley up to Wadi Halfa was finished, and in 1911 its extension into the Sudan was to be undertaken. Topographical surveying added considerably to the material which will be used for the publication of maps of the Nile Valley and Delta in 1:50,000 and 1:10,000. The survey of Alexandria on the scale of 1:1,000 was completed, and that of Cairo was advanced. In geology the Department's labors were mainly directed to the Red Sea coast and especially that part of it near the petroleum region at the south end of the Gulf of Suez. A considerable number of cadastral and topographic maps will soon be added to the large number already published. These additional sheets will be welcomed; and the progress of this scientifically controlled survey in Northeastern Africa is watched with much interest outside of Egypt.

MORTALITY IN THE BELGIAN CONGO. An official report of the Belgian Congo shows that the death rate in that region among the white population has greatly decreased in recent years. This gratifying fact is due to increased knowledge of tropical hygiene, better medical service, and the multiplication of the com-

forts and conveniences of life. From 1900 to 1904 inclusive the average annual death rate per 100 white inhabitants was 6.79; in 1905, 5.69; 1906, 4.25; 1907, 4.38; 1908, 4.69; 1909, 2.62. The largest mortality occurred along the Lower Congo, and in the Equatorial District and the Bangala and Mobangi regions. The Province Orientale had the smallest death rate, in 1909, for example, 1.91. On the other hand, the death rate at Matadi in that year was 4.08. (Statistics from *Le Mouv. Géogr.* No. 13, 1912.)

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY IN THE BELGIAN CONGO. According to the *London Times* (Weekly Edition No. 1840), the installation of wireless telegraphy recently established in the Belgian Congo is giving complete satisfaction. It is expected that Elizabethville, in the southern part of Katanga Province, will within a few months be in communication with Stanleyville, about 1,000 miles to the north. The post of Lisala is now communicating with Boma, Brazzaville, Kindu and Stanleyville, four of the more important settlements along 1,185 miles of the Congo.

FRUIT EXPORTS FROM THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA. In January this year (*Agric. Journ. of the Union of South Africa*, Vol. 3, 1912, No. 3, p. 431), the value of the fresh fruit exported from the Union was valued at \$54,060. The chief exports in order of value were pears, peaches and plums. South African fruit develops in our winter season, reaches the London and New York markets early in March and is becoming a considerable item in the exports from that region. Some years were required to perfect methods of packing and shipboard storage so that this perishable commodity would cross the tropical belt without deterioration, but little loss is now incurred, and fine fruits reach the northern markets, command high prices and are sold before the fruit trees of England and the United States begin to blossom.

ASIA

THE PILGRIMAGE TO MECCA. According to *Nature*, the annual pilgrimage to Mecca has greatly increased since the building of the Damascus-Mecca Railroad. In the year 1880, about 92,000 pilgrims made their way to Mecca. This was about the average annual number of pilgrims. In 1904, when a part of the railroad was in operation, the number of pilgrims increased to about 200,000, and three years later, in 1907, 281,000 of the Faithful made the pilgrimage. These figures are taken from Turkish official statistics. Of the pilgrims about 113,000 were subjects of Turkey, 40,000 came from British India, 17,000 from North Africa, 16,000 from Russia, 15,000 from Persia, 13,000 from the Sudan and 12,000 from Central Asia.

EUROPE

EARTHQUAKES IN ITALY. Notices of the earthquakes recorded in Italy during the first ten and a half months of 1908, are given in the last four numbers of the *Bollettino* of the Italian Seismological Society. The catalogue briefly describes over 500 local shocks, and 94 distinct earthquakes. It is significant that local shocks frequently occurred at Messina, Reggio, and other places that were ruined towards the close of the year, showing the gradual preparation for the great impending earthquake. Full details are given of the eruption at Etna in 1908, which was accompanied by a remarkable series of earthquakes.

PERSONAL

Henryk Arctowski, of New York City, will endeavor, this summer, to write out the results of his latest scientific studies relating to: (1) The yield of corn in the United States; (2) Changes of temperature in the equatorial regions; (3) Annual variation of atmospheric pressure in the United States; (4) Climatic changes in Northern Europe during 1900-1909, a work for which he has collected a large amount of meteorological data.

Prof. A. P. Brigham expects to spend the early part of the summer at home, and to accompany the Trans-continental excursion in August.

Oliver L. Fassig, Section Director of the U. S. Weather Bureau at San Juan, Porto Rico, will spend the coming summer completing a report on "The Climate of Porto Rico." He has given the past three years to a study of the island, and to the reduction of observations made at about fifty climatological stations under the auspices of the U. S. Weather Bureau from 1899 to 1911. The report will probably be published by the Chief of the Weather Bureau at an early date.

OBITUARY

REAR-ADMIRAL GEORGE W. MELVILLE. Rear-Admiral Melville, Engineering Chief of the U. S. Navy, is dead. He was born in New York City in 1841. In 1879, as a member of the Jeannette Expedition commanded by Lieut. George W. De Long, he went to the Arctic, showed great efficiency during the long drift in the ice and the tragical experiences of that ill-fated party, and commanded the survivors who succeeded in escaping from the Lena Delta and returned to the United States. Later, he returned to the Lena River and recovered the records of the expedition and the bodies of Lieut. De Long and his companions. A gold medal was struck for him by special act of Congress, and several institutions honored him with degrees in recognition of his labors in behalf of science.

GENERAL

A BUST OF REAR-ADMIRAL PEARY. The clay model for a bust of Rear-Admiral Peary, executed by Mr. William Couper, is now on its way to Florence to be cut in Cararra marble. Mrs. Morris K. Jesup presents the bust to the American Museum of Natural History, and it will take its place among the other marble busts in Memorial Hall.

THE TENTH INTERNATIONAL GEOGRAPHICAL CONGRESS. The Organizing Committee, with the concurrence of the Permanent Committee in Geneva, has decided that the Congress shall be held in the week beginning March 27, 1913. The programme of the excursions after the Congress will be changed in consequence of holding the session in March instead of October as previously arranged.

ANOTHER MEDAL TO DR. CHARCOT. The Paris Geographical Society will present its gold medal to Dr. Charcot for the geographical results he achieved in the Antarctic by the *Pourquoi Pas?* Expedition.

MEDALS OF THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY. The Founder's Medal has this year been awarded to Mr. Charles Montague Doughty for his explorations in Arabia, and the Patron's Medal to Mr. Douglas Carruthers, for his work in Turkestan and Arabia. The Victoria Medal, which is specially awarded for scientific research in geography, has been conferred upon Sir George H. Darwin.